Meredith, The Hon. Sir William Ralph (Chancellor, University of Toronto) July 1919 - June 1920 (074)

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THE SUPREME COURT
OF ONTARIO.

OSGOODE HALL.
TORONTO.

July 15. 1919.

Dear Mr President

Tuesday afternoon 26 August at 3.P.M will have to suit me although it will disarrange my holiday plans.

Enclose a letter I have received from Mr Douglas Hilary Conley which I have acknowledged & I have told him that I have sent it on to you.

Faithfully Yours,
C.R. Meredith

Sir Robert Falconer
K.C.M.G.

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[Letter not found]

July 11th, 1919

Sir William Meredith,

Chancellor, University of Toronto.

Dear Mr. Chancellor:

I understand that the Lieutenant-Governor and the Committee for the entertainment for his Royal Highness have decided that the honorary degree should be conferred on the Prince of Wales on Tuesday afternoon, August 26th, at three o'clock. I hope that this will suit your convenience.

With kind regards,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

THE SUPREME COURT
OF ONTARIO.

OSGOODE HALL.
TORONTO.

Sept 26. 1919.

Dear Mr Reinhardt

I enclose a letter received from Mr R. Watkins. It seems to make out a good case for granting his son's application.

Yours faithfully
W R Meredith

Sir Robert Falconer.
" "

PHONE MAIN 183
M. WILKINS
Barrister
TANNER & GATES BUILDING
TORONTO

Sept. 23rd., 1919.

Sir William Meredith,

Chancellor, University of Toronto,

Toronto.

Dear Sir,- Re A. R. Wilkins, Student.

My son, Alexander R. Wilkins, graduated from the Ontario College of Pharmacy, with honours, in June, 1915, and enlisted for service overseas in August, 1915. He returned in June, 1919, and, having in the meantime resolved to study medicine, he called upon the Registrar of the University of Toronto to see if he was eligible for registering in the Faculty of Medicine, as he has still two subjects to write off on his matriculation. (He entered the College of Pharmacy with his Pharmacy Matriculation, and while serving his apprenticeship, he wrote off two additional subjects). It was his intention, if he was not eligible, to write off these two subjects this fall. However, he was informed by an official in the Registrar's Officethat he was eligible, and he then petitioned the Senate of the University to be allowed certain subjects in his first year medicine that he had passed during his course at Pharmacy.

But, on going to Registerin the Faculty of Medicine on the 11th inst., he was then told he was not eligible as he had not his full matriculation. This information was not given him in time to prepare for the examinations he had still to pass, whereas, if he had been so informed during the month of June, he would have had ample time to prepare for them.

In view of the fact that he is an honour graduate of the Ontario College of Pharmacy, has served his country for four years

M.WILKINS

and was informed last June that he had sufficient standing to enter first year Medicine this term, it hardly seems fair or just that he be refused entrance this year.

It has been suggested to me that I should write you as Chancellor of the University on behalf of the boy and when all the facts are properly known to it, I have no doubt that the Senate will give his petition for registering in Medicine, now pending, due consideration.

Yours truly,

M. Wilkins

September 20th, 1919

Sir William Meredith,
Chancellor, University of Toronto.
Dear Mr.Chancellor:

Dr. Langton tells me that he has written to your granddaughter to say that there is no vacancy just now on the Library staff, but that at the first opportunity her application will be given consideration.

Also, Professor J. J. Mackenzie thinks that it would be well for your granddaughter to go to see him with regard to her work in Bacteriology. It may be difficult to take up the classes without previous scientific training. He is in the Pathological Building on University Avenue near the Hospital.

The regular fees are ten dollars for one course or nine dollars for two courses for occasional students with the extra fee for the Bacteriological Laboratory. Professor Mackenzie was unable to tell me offhand what that fee would be, but it is not very large.

Yours sincerely,

President.

October 7th, 1919

Sir William Meredith,
Chancellor, University of Toronto.
Dear Mr. Chancellor:

On Friday night after the Senate adopted the Report on Honorary Degrees a motion was brought in and carried to read a statute for the first time to grant the honorary degree of Master of Arts to the only V.C. that the University has had, Major McDonell of Maitland, Ontario. He is a graduate in Arts of Victoria College, and the Senate was strongly of opinion that such a degree was well earned and would be popular in our university circles. The statute will be read a second time next Friday night.

Professor I. H. Cameron brought forward the name of Miss Hayside as the most suitable person to represent the nurses for their services during the war. Miss Hayside is a graduate in Arts of Queen's University. She went overseas early in 1915, almost immediately went to France, where she had over a year and a half in the Second Base Hospital; was recalled for work in London and was then recalled to Ottawa about a year and a half ago, where she has been matron-in-chief at military headquarters. I met Miss Hayside yesterday in Ottawa and she impressed me as a lady who would wear such a degree with much dignity, and I am inclined to think that we would not make a mistake in recommending her name.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

THE SUPREME COURT
OF ONTARIO.

OSGOODE HALL,
TORONTO.

Oct 15. 1919.

Dear Mr President

Return Mr R. L. Elliotts letter.

The widely Expressed intention of Elliotts made to give his property to the University & the Brockville Hospital is ineffective. In the absence of a will or some other instrument carrying it into effect mere intention to give amounts to nothing.

If there is believed to be a will in existence steps could be taken to recall the letters of administration and the parties who are supposed to know about the will could be Examined under oath but from what your correspondent says I gather that he does not think that any will was made.

Yours faithfully
W R Meredith

Sir Robert Falconer
" "

November 3rd, 1919

Sir William Meredith,
Chancellor, University of Toronto.

Dear Mr. Chancellor:

I have just received a telegram from General Currie saying that the doctors forbid him to leave Vancouver Island before the first of December. This means a serious upset for our arrangements on Nov. 11th. However, we cannot draw back now, as the Governor-General is to be here, and we have sent invitations far and wide.

The Governors of the University, the Heads of Colleges, Deans of Faculties and guests will meet the Chancellor and President in the Common Room at 11:30, and the formal opening is at noon. We are expecting you also to preside at the Convocation at three in Convocation Hall, and we hope that the Governor General will lay the Foundation Stone of the Memorial when the Convocation is over. I hope that these arrangements will suit you.

The formal cards giving all the information will be sent to you in a day or two.

Yours sincerely,

President.

December 13th, 1919

Sir William Meredith,
Chancellor, University of Toronto.

Dear Mr. Chancellor:

I will at once set about obtaining the information for which you ask. To obtain some of it a few days may be necessary. I hope that the Committee may be able to find some solution of a very difficult matter.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

December 24th, 1919

The Honourable Sir William Meredith,
Chancellor, University of Toronto.

My dear Mr. Chancellor:

Mr. Gunton's letter as far as I am able to judge should go to the Royal College of Dental Surgeons. It seems to me that the University has nothing to say in this matter. I will, however, speak to Mr. Brebner in case there should be some connection of which I know nothing.

Wishing you the compliments of the Season,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

January 27th, 1920

Sir William Meredith,
Chancellor, University of Toronto.

Dear Mr. Chancellor:

Will you authorise the calling of the Committee on Honorary Degrees at 4:30 on Friday, February 6th, in the University ? According to the Senate's regulations we are supposed to have a meeting about this time of the year.

Yours sincerely,

President.

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March 6th, 1920

Sir William Meredith,
Chancellor, University of Toronto.
Dear Mr. Chancellor:

Mr. Vincent Massey has sent Sir Edmund Walker a draft of the Deed of Gift of Hart House. He has gone over the details of it with me, but he thinks that we should go over it with you before having it sent back to Mr. Massey, and he has asked me to arrange for a meeting of yourself and himself and myself as soon as possible. Would Tuesday afternoon, March 9th, at four o'clock in my room be convenient for you ?

Yours sincerely,

President.

May 14th, 1920

Sir William Meredith,
Chancellor of the University of Toronto.
Dear Mr. Chancellor:

I find that the material given to you by the Bursar with regard to the Report of the Committee on Students' Health does not contain the memoranda which were presented to us for our consideration. I am therefore sending them to you that you may be able to form a more accurate judgment as to the grounds that we had for coming to our decision.

Yours sincerely,

President.

May 28th, 1920

Sir William Meredith,
Chancellor, University of Toronto.
My dear Mr. Chancellor:

At the meeting of the Board yesterday I spoke of the difficulties that are arising through the terms of the University Act which constitute every one of professorial grade who is giving instruction in any faculty a member of that faculty. The result has been in the Faculties of Applied Science and Medicine that professors who who are giving instruction in Arts subjects and belong definitely to the Faculty of Arts, have a right to vote on questions in these professional faculties which are beyond their province. At any time on a critical vote a matter of professional policy might thus be determined by outside men. It seems to me that the only way to solve this difficulty would be for the Board of Governors definitely to name the members of a Faculty, and when new appointments are being made to state to what Faculty or Faculties each individual belongs. I do not think it wise to confine any individual teacher to one Faculty, but I believe that the number of those who constitute a Faculty should be limited. If you agree with me in this, perhaps you would consider what changes might be necessary in the University Act, and then I should be ready to make nominations before the autumn.

With kind regards, I am,
Yours sincerely,

President.

May 28th, 1920

Sir William Meredith,
Osgoode Hall,
Toronto.

Dear Mr. Chancellor:

Just a word to remind you that the Convocation for conferring the honorary degrees is to be held next Thursday night, June 3rd, at 8.15. We meet in the rear of the Convocation Hall,

With kind regards, I am,
Yours sincerely,

President.

May 28th, 1920

Sir William Meredith,
Chancellor, University of Toronto.

My dear Mr. Chancellor:

At the meeting of the Board yesterday I spoke of the difficulties that are arising through the terms of the University Act which constitute every one of professorial grade in any faculty a member of that faculty. The result has been in the Faculty of Applied Science and Medicine that professors who are giving instruction in Arts subjects and belong definitely to the Faculty of Arts have a right to vote on questions in these professional faculties which are beyond their province. At any time on a critical vote a matter of professional policy might thus be determined by outside men. It seems to me that the only way to solve this difficulty would be for the Board of Governors definitely to constitute a Faculty, and when appointments are made to state what Faculty or Faculties each individual belongs. I do not think it wise to confine any individual teacher to one Faculty, but I believe that the number which constitute a Faculty should be limited. If you agree with me in this, perhaps you would consider what changes might be necessary in the University Act, and then I should be ready to make nominations before the autumn.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

June 11th, 1920

Sir William Meredith,
Chancellor, University of Toronto.

Dear Mr. Chancellor:

At a meeting of the Board held yesterday I spoke of an interview that Dean Fakenham and I had yesterday morning with the Minister of Education and Dr. Merchant. They have definitely decided to remove from the University the first Class Public School teachers. This will leave only the graduates for the Faculty of Education. Moreover, if they leave the Faculty of Education they wish to have an agreement drawn up setting forth what has been the actual practice for the last dozen years; that they would be consulted by the University as to appointments to the staff and curriculum; also, that the Governors would be willing to submit a special budget for the Faculty of Education. Perhaps equally important to this is their desire to have the name changed so that it may be called "The College of Education of Ontario". This last request is due to the demands for Faculties from Queen's and London.

It seems to me that the Board by the Act has authority to change the name from the Faculty of Education to the College of Education for Ontario without dissociating it from its present relationship to the University.

The Minister is very anxious that we should see him at once and have this arranged. The Governors yesterday approved of the general proposition and appointed you and the Chairman along with myself as a Committee to issue the matter. If I can get Mr. Grant for Monday morning would that be a suitable time for you at be present with the Committee ?

Yours sincerely,

President.

June 19th, 1920

Dear Mr. Chancellor:

The enclosed is a draft of the proposed agreement between the University and the Department of Education with regard to the change in the constitution of the Faculty of Education. Dr. Colquhoun and Dr. Merchant have been responsible for the proposals on the Government side and Dr. Falconer on our side. Would you be kind enough to read the document through, and let me know whether there are any changes that suggest themselves to you? If there is nothing serious, I might perhaps see the Government myself in the matter, otherwise we might have to have a meeting of our Committee. The Government are very desirous of having this put through as early as possible.

Yours sincerely,

President.

Sir William Meredith,
Chancellor, University of Toronto.

June 11th, 1920

Sir William Meredith,
Chancellor, University of Toronto.

Dear Mr. Chancellor:

The matter of requiring compulsory medical examination under medical advisers of the University, which you will remember was brought before the Board a month ago, should be decided not later than the next meeting of the Board, for if the fee is to be imposed notice should be given at once.

I believe that the imposition of the fee will be of value not merely in safeguarding the general health of the student body, but in turning back at an early period of their career people who should be advised against undertaking work for which they have some physical disability. For instance, yesterday a case came to my notice of a man who has reached the third year in Medicine, but who is physically in such a condition that it is not advisable for him to proceed further. As far as examinations go he fulfils the conditions, but a medical examination at the beginning of his career would have given proof that he is unfit for it.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

Mr. Chancellor:

I have the honour to introduce to you the Warden of Hart House, Mr. Walter Franklin Bowles, B.A., of this University. Upon the Warden of Hart House will depend in large measure the realisation of the purpose of the gift. He will give direction to many of the varied activities of this House, and as Chairman of the Board of Trustees he will have the responsibility of instituting such measures and creating such an atmosphere as will make a healthy social life among the members of Hart House. What we have known of Mr. Bowles as an undergraduate, as a member of the Officers Training Company, and in the First Tank Battalion Overseas is sufficient ground for our belief that as first Warden he will fulfil the duties of the office with much success.

February 16th, 1920

To the Chancellor, or Chairman
Committee on Honorary Degrees.

Dear Mr. Chancellor:

I am handing you herewith several communications sent me on behalf of persons for whom an honorary degree is sought:

(1) From Dr. Coyne on behalf of Dr. Severence (LL.D.)
(2) From Dr. Vogt and Sir Edmund Walker on behalf of Mr. Healey Willan (Mus. Doc.)
(3) From Professor Duckworth on behalf of Judge Smith of Windsor, Ont. (LL.D.)
(4) From Dr. Murray Clark on behalf of Mr. L. S. Amery, M.P. London (LL.D. presumably)
(5) From Mr. Vincent Massey forwarding a letter from Major Tait of McGill University asking that an honorary degree be given to Mr. MacNeil of the C.S.V.A.

I should like also to bring forward these names in addition:

Mr. Chester Massey as a recognition of the gift of the Hart House (LL.D.)

Mr. Sproatt - the architect (D.Sc.?)

Mr. Justice Masten, President of the Alumni Association, which has been peculiarly active under his direction.

Dean H. Fakenham, now for thirteen years Dean of the Faculty of Education (LL.D.)

Archibald MacMechan, Professor of English in Dalhousie University, Halifax, a graduate of Toronto, and one of the leading literary men of the Dominion (LL.D.)

I believe also that soon the University should recognize two of its distinguished graduates who live in Ottawa:

The Honourable Mr. Justice Duff

Dr. A. G. Macallum, F.R.S.

When I was in Winnipeg last October I was asked to have the name of Mr. Dafoe, Editor of the Winnipeg Free Press, submitted

for a degree, and I should now like to present his name to the Committee. I believe that the University should recognize the best as frequently as possible.

Regretting my inability to attend the Committee, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.